

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1478

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3803

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, DR

SUBJECT: GULF & WESTERN FOUNDATION

1. IN A PRESS NOTICE PUBLISHED SEPT 10, GULF & WESTERN FOUNDATION ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD DISTRIBUTED OVER \$4 MILLION DURING THE LAST YEAR. NOTICE ALSO STATED THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FOUNDATION HAD BEEN EXPANDED FROM 7 TO 13 WITH THE 6 NEW MEMBERS BEING PROMINENT DOMINICANS. (ALTHOUGH THE 6 DOMINICANS ARE NOT FORMALLY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD -- THIS WILL REQUIRE AN AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE FOUNDATION -- THEY ARE ALREADY PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETINGS AND MAKING SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS.)

2. THE 6 NEW MEMBERS ARE: DR. JUAN TOMAS MEJIA FELIU, RESPECTED RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL PEDRO HENRIQUEZ URENA (UNPHU); ARQ. JOSE ANTONIO CARO, A PERCEPTIVE, POLITICALLY AWARE MEMBER OF AN INFLUENTIAL SANTO DOMINGO FAMILY; DR. BOLIVAR BAEZ ORTIZ, DIRECTOR OF THE FUNDACION DOMINICAN DE DESARROLLO (THE PRIVATELY FINANCED DOMINICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION); PRESBYTER JUAN MUNEZ, SOCIAL-ACTIVIST CATHOLIC PRIEST; EDUARDO LEON ASECIO, SCION OF A WEALTHY, INDUSTRIAL SANTIAGO FAMILY; AND MARGARITA BAQUERO DE REID, A BRIGHT AND TALENTED WOMAN MARRIED INTO A POLITICALLY IMPORTANT DOMINICAN FAMILY.

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3. COMMENT: THE ADDITION OF THESE INFLUENTIAL, INDEPENDENT

AND RESPECTED DOMINICANS TO THE FOUNDATION SHOULD HELP TO
IMPROVE GULF & WESTERN'S IMAGE AS A COMPANY SERIOUSLY
INTERESTED IN APPLYING GENUINE DOMINICAN VIEWS TO THE
FORMULATION OF ITS PROGRAMS OF DOMINICAN DEVELOPMENT.
HURWITCH

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